

HOUSE RESOLUTION 47
By Pruitt

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Matthew Sherrill on the celebration of his 90th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, having cultivated the fertile fields of life, Mr. Matthew Sherrill will celebrate his 90th birthday on March 15, 2005, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, the seventh of eleven children born to the late Matthew Sherrill and Anna Gardner in Giles County, Mr. Sherrill is a highly respected member of the Nashville community; and

WHEREAS, originally a sharecropper, Mr. Sherrill once heard a voice caution, "Without a vision you will perish!"; he then became determined to provide a decent home for his family and to raise educated and self-reliant children; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to providing for all five of his children, John William, Albert, Martin, Myra, and Jolene, and their educations compelled him to become an independent businessman; and

WHEREAS, upon terminating his employment with Dr. Fred Hall, Mr. Sherrill began his own lawn service, which was only the beginning of a long and successful career as an entrepreneur; and

WHEREAS, a witness to the flowering of his own success, he later added a disposal business as well as a rock masonry business to his enterprises, and ran a service station on Sweetbriar Avenue; and

WHEREAS, he is still operating his masonry business today; the fruits of Mr. Sherrill's labors can be seen throughout Nashville and stand as a testament to the high quality handiwork and craftsmanship of his crews; and

WHEREAS, having commenced a beautiful and flourishing relationship with God in 1945, Mr. Sherrill is an active and devout Deacon of his church, loves gospel music, and shares his singing talents with many fortunate friends; and

WHEREAS, as a man of unwavering faith, he is deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Sherrill was blessed to share love and companionship with Arinda Jones, his beloved wife, who passed away after sixty-two wonderful years of marriage; he continues to enjoy the love and affection of his family and friends, and especially his wonderful companion, Bertha Buchanan, whose concern and care are unending; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sherrill has held true to fully appreciating the blessings of this life; he has carefully cultivated a life of decency, broadcast and sown seeds of well being for his offspring, and propagated much success throughout Nashville; and

WHEREAS, he has created an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens, a man whose friendship and camaraderie continues to touch his friends and neighbors throughout Nashville, on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Matthew Sherrill, faithful friend, devoted family man, and humble servant to the Lord, on the celebration of his 90th birthday and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

